

Marabetti, Rose

From: Gilsenan, Michael
Sent: Monday, October 25, 2004 3:18 PM
To: Kelpin, Gerry; Fawzy, Moustafa; Radhakrishnan, Krish; Raffo, Barbara; Marabetti, Rose; Smyth, Virginia
Cc: Catanzaro, Enzo; Theodorellys, Penny
Subject: FW: WTC Evidence Questionnaire

-----Original Message-----

From: Gilsenan, Michael
Sent: Monday, October 25, 2004 2:33 PM
To: Kelpin, Gerry; Fawzy, Moustafa; Radhakrishnan, Krish; Raffo, Barbara; Marabetti, Rose; Smyth, Virginia
Cc: Catanzaro, Enzo; Theodorellys, Penny
Subject: FW: WTC Evidence Questionnaire

Here is the Law Department's WTC Evidence Questionnaire that we discussed at today's mtg. Pls. ensure that all staff members with WTC information receive and fill out the questionnaire by this Friday Oct. 29th. This all can be done via E- mail. Thanks

10/29/2004

Attorney Client Communication
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BASIC EVIDENCE QUESTIONNAIRE (Rev.4)

The following questions are meant to assist the World Trade Center Unit of the NYC Law Department in its efforts to collect material related to the City's response to the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001.

Type your responses into the gray boxes. Move to next box with the TAB key.

First Name:
Last Name:
Phone Number:
Email:
Agency:

1. What is your current job title?

1a. Please describe your duties:

2. Did you hold a different job title in a New York City Agency on September 11, 2001?

Yes ☐ No ☐ *(Please check the appropriate box with the mouse or spacebar)*

If you answered Yes to Question 2, please answer Questions 2a through 2d below.

If you answered No, please skip to Question 3.

2a. What was your job title on September 11, 2001? Please include your agency, bureau, division, and unit (if applicable).

2b. What were your duties at that time?

2c. When did you leave this position?

2d. Who replaced you?

3. When you started your current job, did you inherit anyone's documents (whether in paper or electronic form) relating to the attacks of September 11, 2001, and/or the subsequent rescue, recovery or cleanup efforts? (if you are unsure, select Yes and describe below)

Yes ☐ No ☐

3a. If yes; please describe those documents, their source, contents, and location.

4. Did you do any work relating to the attacks of September 11, 2001, the collapse of the World Trade Center, the Frozen Zone, or any type of recovery from the aftermath of these events? (if you are unsure, select Yes and describe below) Yes ☐ No ☐

4a. If you answered Yes, please describe what work you did.

5. Did you ever generate, create, receive, or distribute documents relating to the attacks of September 11, 2001, and/or the subsequent rescue, recovery, or cleanup efforts? (if you are unsure, select Yes and describe below) Yes ☐ No ☐

5a. If you answered Yes, please describe those documents, their contents, location, and name of current custodian.

6. Did you generate, create, receive, or distribute documents in electronic form relating to the attacks of September 11, 2001, and/or the subsequent rescue, recovery, or cleanup efforts? (For example, E-mail, Word Documents, Spreadsheets, Databases) (if you are unsure, select Yes and describe below) Yes ☐ No ☐

6a. If you answered Yes, please describe those electronic documents, their contents, location, name of current custodian, and whether they were saved on a hard-drive, shared drive (server), CD, DVD, floppy disc, or other media?

6b. Did you use any device other than your work desktop computer (such as a blackberry, PDA, laptop, home computer) to generate or receive any of these electronic documents? Yes ☐ No ☐

7. Please identify anyone you worked with or supervised who may possess documents or information relating to the attacks of September 11, 2001, and/or the subsequent rescue, recovery, or cleanup efforts.

Law Department personnel comments (for internal use only):

Interview: Yes ☐ No ☐

E-Interview: Yes ☐ No ☐

Interview Date: (mm/dd/yy)

Other follow-up:

Notes from interview:

Reviewer:

Date reviewed: (mm/dd/yy)

Free Screening **WTC Health Study** **At Mt. Sinai Clinic**

By MARK DALY

Thousands of rescue workers, police officers and volunteers who responded to the World Trade Center disaster will be able to get free long-term health screening beginning this summer.

The Federal Government will pay for the occupational health center of the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in Manhattan to conduct a long-term study of workers who were exposed to hazardous substances during the cleanup at Ground Zero and the recovery of remains and evidence at the Fresh Kills landfill, U.S. Senator Hillary Clinton announced May 17.

Something in the Air

Hundreds of people who worked at the site, including firefighters, police officers and laborers, have reported respiratory problems that range from persistent coughs to newly developed asthma. The destruction of the Twin Towers and the long-burning fires afterward released numerous corrosive substances into the air, including toxic gases, asbestos, fiberglass and heavy metals. The Mt. Sinai survey will be open to all workers except firefighters, who are already being monitored by the Fire Department.

The Mount Sinai Hospital-Irving J. Selikoff Center for Occupational Medicine has established a toll-free number, (888) 702-0630, for people to call and be screened for participation in the study.



THOMAS J. SCOTTO:
Unions pay initial tab.

based on their exposure to dust and debris. Workers who appear to be at greatest risk for health problems will be scheduled first for medical tests.

The research project will overlap with another study to be conducted by the Police Department. Beginning June 1, the NYPD Medical Division will begin evaluations of 700 employees who had long-term assignments at Ground Zero or Fresh Kills after Sept. 11, Police Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly said last week.

The NYPD's research project is funded by the New York City Police Relief Fund, a charitable organization created by the five police unions and funded through union dues. "We wanted to get something going, to give

our members a sense of security," said Detectives' Endowment Association President Thomas J. Scotto, who has 500 members working at Fresh Kills.

The study will begin with the expectation that the Police Department will secure outside funding and reimburse the unions, Mr. Scotto said.

Since October, the Fire Department has evaluated 10,000 of its 11,000 uniformed employees for health problems arising from their work at Ground Zero. About 190 firefighters are on medical leave because of respiratory illnesses, stress or mental health issues related to the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, said the FDNY's chief medical officer, Dr. Kerry Kelly. The FDNY is seeking funding to continue monitoring the health of firefighters after they retire, she said.

Give at the office. Contribute to the Combined Municipal Campaign.

The Chief
5.31.02

The New York Times

5-26-02

Design Competition at 55 Water Street

Renovating A Public Plaza

One of the least public acres in New York City's empire of privately owned public space — the elevated brick-top plaza at 55 Water Street in Lower Manhattan — is to undergo a long overdue renovation.

Though it commands splendid views of the East River, the 30-year-old plaza attracts relatively few users since it is quite isolated and lacks any amenities. Most recently, the Goldman Sachs Group proposed to replace the plaza with a new 240-foot-high trading structure. That plan was abandoned in March 2001.

And the Retirement Systems of Alabama, which owns 55 Water Street, does not see anyone else stepping forward to build. So it is sponsoring a juried competition with the Municipal Art Society that seeks to transform the space into a "vital destination that contributes to the cultural life of Lower Manhattan."

Six entrants will be chosen by invitation in July and given \$10,000 stipends to come up with a submission by Sept. 13. The winner will be announced two weeks later. Architects, landscape architects and urban designers who wish to be considered will find a request for qualifications posted on the Municipal Art Society's Web site, www.mas.org, by June 3.

With 3.6 million square feet of space and a workday population of 12,000 when fully occupied (not counting the peregrine falcons on a 14th-floor perch), 55 Water Street is the city's largest office tower.

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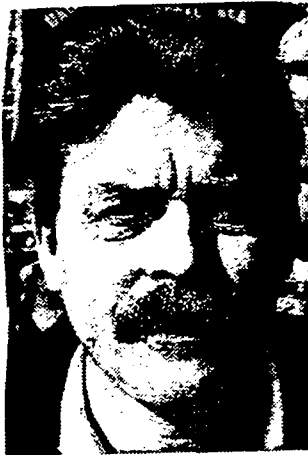
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The Chief
5.31.02

X



THOMAS MANLEY: Assist from Senator Clinton.

FEMA To Pay For Cleaning Of Fire Trucks

By MARK DALY

The Federal Emergency Management Agency will pay to clean Fire Department vehicles that contain possibly harmful dust from the World Trade Center site, city and fire union officials announced last week.

At least \$2 million will be allocated for the cleaning of 600 vehicles that were used at the World Trade Center on Sept. 11 and afterward, according to the Uniformed Firefighters' Association, which had pressed for the funding.

Asbestos Found

The Fire Department cleaned 200 ladder trucks and engines and returned them to service earlier this year, but the UFA complained that many nooks and crannies of those vehicles are still coated with grime that contains asbestos, fiberglass and concrete dust. Samples from three of the vehicles tested positive for amounts

of asbestos above legal limits, the union announced May 17.

The Federal money will be used for an extensive cleaning that involves disassembling each vehicle and scrubbing its internal vents and wiring, said UFA Sergeant-at-Arms Thomas Manley, the union's chief health and safety officer.

The Fire Department said it requested FEMA funding for the cleaning months ago, and had waited for a response along with many other city agencies that submitted funding requests. But Mr. Manley contended a key change occurred May 20 after he raised the issue in a conversation with U.S. Senator Hillary Clinton and FEMA Director Joseph M. Allbaugh at the Deer Park, L.I. funeral for Deputy Chief Raymond M. Downey, who was killed at the World Trade Center. That afternoon, FEMA announced it would pay for the cleaning.

Mr. Manley said the UFA would continue to push the city to provide a similar cleaning for the firehouses south of Canal St. "They cleaned the businesses, but they didn't clean the firehouses," he said.

The Chief
5.31.02

Boro cyclists hit streets in alternative commute

By DUSTIN BROWN

Some say they're crazy, and perhaps they are.

They brave fierce winds and blazing sun, heavy rains and sometimes even snow as they trek across the Queensboro Bridge.

But the hundreds of Queens commuters who reach Manhattan by bicycle every day have their own notion of what counts as crazy, and you can bet they won't trade their windswept hair and muddied wheels for the cramped subway car anytime soon.

"It's amazing because for me, it's exciting watching the city," said Mireya Garcia, 33, a housekeeper from Astoria who bikes to the Upper East Side and then downtown. "It's so beautiful, and it saves money from my tokens."

Transportation Alternatives, a citywide bicycle advocacy group, estimates that between 150 and 200 commuters cross the Queensboro Bridge into Manhattan between 7 a.m. and 10 a.m., said the organization's project director, Noah Budnick. About 13,000 of the city's 105,000 daily cyclists ride in Queens, whether they are commuting, playing, delivering food or going shopping.

The borough's bike commuters were treated to a special pit stop Friday morning as they approached the Queensboro Bridge, where representatives of Transportation Alternatives and the Queens borough president's office handed out bagels, juice and bicycle maps as part of Bike Week 2002, which ended Sunday.

The borough's 84 miles of bike paths and on-street bike routes ranks it second in the city in the length of its bike network, behind only Brooklyn at 92 miles and ahead of Manhattan, which has 79 miles.

Although the borough is so large its established bike network often goes unnoticed — even by avid bicyclists — the paths have a practical purpose beyond recreational rides because they are well-connected with one another, Budnick said.

"It really integrates bicycles as part of the transportation network in the city," Budnick said.

Queens also offers other advantages for cyclists, such as a varied network of side streets.

"It's better because there's a lot less traffic," said Douglas Arevalo, 29, a bike messenger from Jackson Heights. "You have a bigger choice of streets to take. You don't have the traffic volume you have in Manhattan."

But for Enid Rivera, 42, who treks from Jamaica to Manhattan every day for her job as

a graphic designer at the Daily News, the only way to go is Queens Boulevard, the notoriously dangerous thoroughfare that cuts through the center of the borough.

"I wish I could have another safer direct way, but that's the only road," she said as she stepped off her bike to enjoy the breakfast spread. "It's not as bad as people make it out to be. I think it's more dangerous for pedestrians and cars."

Not everyone shares her bravado, however.

"If you share a road with an auto, there's always a chance," said Todd Gwinn, 42, a librarian at Mid-Manhattan Library who commutes from Sunnyside on a folding bicycle, which he can take inside after riding. "I just have to live with that. That's the price for riding a bicycle."

But the city also is planning numerous improvements to the borough's bicycle infrastructure, starting at Queens Plaza itself, where the Department of City Planning's proposed redesign calls for a bike path to run from the Queens Boulevard Bridge to the Queensboro Bridge. The lane would circle around a proposed seating area where the JFK Commuter Triangle now sits, and then travel the length of Queens Plaza North inside a planted median, interrupted by a cross street only once.

Another major project, the North Queens Greenway, is a proposed bike path running along the perimeter of the borough's shoreline from the Pulaski Bridge in Long Island City to LaGuardia Airport, where it would connect with the Flushing Promenade.

"Putting a bike path along the water creates a very efficient and popular commuter route," Budnick said. "So based on what we've seen on the Hudson River Greenway, it's a great way to encourage people to ride to work and to ride for shopping and for recreation in general, because it's a safe place, it's off the street and it's fast."

The borough already has greenways, or off-street paths, along the Flushing Promenade, Little Neck Park and the former Vanderbilt Motor Parkway.

New bike lanes are expected to open by June in Bellerose and in Queens Village along Winchester Boulevard between Union Turnpike and Braddock Avenue, and from there along 222nd Street to 100th Avenue.

Reach reporter Dustin Brown by e-mail at Timesledger@aol.com or call 229-0300, Ext. 154.

Times Ledger
5.23.02

New York Post
5-29-02

FINAL CUT FOR WTC'S PILLAR OF STRENGTH

By WILLIAM NEUMAN

Ground Zero workers cut down the last remaining column from the Twin Towers last night in an emotional ceremony that brought tears to the eyes of rugged hard hats.

"It choked you up, made it hard to swallow. My throat was the size of a dime," said Gerard Tate, a heavy-equipment operator who has been working at the World Trade Center site since Sept. 11.

"We got some dignity out of it," Tate said of the ceremony. "There's a lot of dignity still left in that hole."

About 250 construction workers wearing hard hats and orange safety vests attended the tribute, designed to mark the end of the nearly nine-month Ground Zero recovery effort.

The workers used weld-

ing torches to cut down a 36-foot steel column that was the last standing remnant of the trade center's south tower.

Hard-hats cheered as a huge crane picked up the beam and placed it on the ground so that a floral wreath could be laid on top of it.

Then the crane lifted the beam again and placed it upon a flatbed truck.

Dozens of workers then covered it with a black shroud and a large American flag.

Bagpipers played "Amazing Grace."

The hard-hats who finished the immense recovery job months ahead of schedule said the most moving part of the ceremony came next, when they marched up the ramp out of Ground Zero, flanked by a solemn honor guard of Navy sailors and city firefighters, who saluted them at attention.

"It was very emotional," said Joe Carsky, the chief engineer for Tully Construction.

The steel column will remain at Ground Zero until tomorrow, when it will be removed as part of the final ceremony to commemorate the end of the recovery work.

The column will be stored in a field at Kennedy Airport with other WTC artifacts for eventual inclusion in a memorial or museum display.

Last Steel Column From the Ground Zero Rubble Is Cut Down

By CHARLIE LeDUFF

It was a night for the working people, a brief, private moment to reflect on their 37 weeks spent together at ground zero. A night to mark the end.

Column No. 1,001 B of 2 World Trade Center, the last symbolic piece of the unfathomable recovery effort, was cut down at 8:17 p.m. yesterday by operating engineers, ironworkers, teamsters, laborers and dock builders.

The 58-ton piece of steel from the south tower was laid on a flatbed truck, wrapped in black muslin and an American flag, and tucked in a corner of the pit. It will be taken out tomorrow morning as part of the ceremony marking the end of the recovery effort at ground zero. The world will participate by television.

Last night there were a few government officials, along with a group of police officers and firefighters, including a retired fire captain who had not found his dead son. There was a bugler, bagpipers and a few hundred men and women with sad memories of abandoned shoes and acrid-smelling smoke and eerie green vapor.

The time spent here has played on their minds. Over these past eight and a half months spent at ground zero, the workers are convinced that they have seen ghosts and been visited by old friends in their dreams.

They are sure they have inhaled asbestos and plastics and human remains, unsure of what the physical and spiritual effects of ground zero will have on them in the days and months and years ahead.

They gathered at Vesey and West Streets around 7 p.m. and fell in line behind the drums and pipes, and moved down West Street into the pit. The American flag was removed from the top of the column, folded and presented to Lou Mendes of the Department of Design and Construction. The blowtorch was lighted and passed among the tradesmen from Ironworkers Local 40, Laborers Locals 79 and 731, Dock Builders Local 1456 and International Operating Engineers Locals 14 and 15. Each took turns cutting a piece away.

Joe Bradley, 57, helped build the twin towers, helped remove their remains and will undoubtedly be here to rebuild. "Don't ever forget these days, boys," he said before the ceremony as work in the pit continued. "We came in as individuals, and we'll walk out together."

Let history show that many of these men and women were here on the afternoon of Sept. 11, having abandoned their jobs elsewhere in the metropolitan region. How they

scribbled their names and phone numbers on their forearms those first few days in case they were swallowed up in a hole and killed.

Also, let it note these small memories. How the workers wept over the abandoned shoes lying in the streets left by people running for their lives. How people laughed that second evening as the ironworkers wore cashmere coats and scarves and fedoras from Brooks Brothers as they burned the steel to brace themselves against the cold.

It was a family affair, and they were represented last night. The Reinle brothers: Edward, 60, a heavy-machine operator; Thomas, 59, a firefighter; William, 58, an ironworker; and Richard, 57, a Metropolitan Transportation Authority technician. There were others. The Cipriano brothers. The Fossati brothers, the Nolans, Bradleys, Grays and so on.

"You found out who you were," Joe Bradley said of his time here. "What it means to be an American, what it is to stand up."

There were no speeches in the hole, a smattering of silence among the shouts of "U.S.A." and "Union, Union, Union" and loved ones calling by cellphone. The pit smelled of wet mud and cigarette smoke.

The work is officially over and the work done was remarkable. It came in under budget, three months ahead of schedule and without one serious injury in 1.5 million man-hours. Still, business is business and the layoffs come quickly. The lucky workers have already been assigned to new

jobs or have gone back to the old ones, like the AOL Time Warner job in Columbus Circle. Others will be shaping up in the union halls today hoping for a chance of work.

It is finally over and the workers went on their way from ground zero to deal with that alone. There were no psychologists to debrief them, no respiratory doctors to meet them.

When the column was stowed away, the men and women marched up the ramp through a Navy honor guard, and each worker was handed an American flag. The workers walked past the banner that read "We Will Never Forget" and headed for the taverns.

There, they talked about the lives to be gotten on with. One man talked of seeing the barber to get his collar line cut properly; he has been trimming his own hair since September.

Another has a marriage to patch up. Another talked about making it up to his daughter for missing her recital. There was the hunting trip in Canada and baseball games to see. The future to look forward to.

NYTimes
5.29.02

Only the Memories Remain

Removal of column a symbol of WTC cleanup's end

By Graham Rayman

STAFF WRITER

Tradesmen from four key union locals cut down the final surviving column from the World Trade Center's south tower last night in a solemn ceremony at Ground Zero.

Amid applause and chants of "USA! USA!," a flag that flew atop of the 36-foot-tall, 58-ton steel column was removed and folded.

The last column standing at the site of the largest terrorist attack in the United States was lifted from the ground, placed on the bed of a truck and then covered with a black shroud to await its removal from the pit tomorrow.

"I wanted to be part of it," said Matt Lenio, 33, one of 14 people selected to be part of the ceremonial crew cutting down the column.

"It was pretty terrible what happened here," Lenio said. "I look at the world a little differently now. It's definitely had an impact on my life as it did all the people that worked down here."

The beam is so thick that workers began cutting it at 4 p.m. yesterday. Shortly after 7 p.m., when the day shift ends and the night shift begins, representatives of Dockbuilders Local 1456, Ironworkers Local 40 and Laborers Locals 731 and 79 each cut the four remaining corners, and men from Local 608 of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners draped the shroud over the beam.

Twin lines of police officers and firefighters lined up on the steel bridge and saluted the construction workers as they walked out of the pit. Earlier in the day, welders burned the names of the different locals and police and fire units into the beam, workers said.

For the construction workers who labored for eight difficult, heartbreaking months—at the site, the event was viewed as a final step.

Lenio, a dockbuilder from Northport, said he came to Ground Zero with his four brothers, all construction workers who wanted to volunteer.

"I kind of asked to be involved," he said. "I've been here since Sept. 12. I came as a burner, cutting steel and looking for survivors."

He said he did that for four or five months, then started working on the tiebacks.

Tom Dougherty, 41, one of six men from Local 608 who covered the beam, said he also started working at the site Sept. 12.

Dougherty of Rockaway, N.J., said he was glad to be part of last night's ceremony.

"A lot of families, hopefully, will get some closure out of it," he said. "This has been a long, hard period. A lot of people think that it went quickly, but for us down at the site, it was a long time."

Rick Ostrander of the dockbuilders, who has worked at Ground Zero since Sept. 12, said the ceremony should also "give the guys closure, and I hope it goes a long way towards doing just that."

Officials said remains of 1,092 of the

2,823 people killed on Sept. 11 have been identified. The city Medical Examiner's office continues an unprecedented effort to identify 20,000 body parts that have been recovered.

Last night's ceremony illustrated that what began as one event signaling the official end of the recovery effort has evolved into three events, each with a slightly different constituency and purpose.

— Tomorrow, a large, more public

event attended by many elected officials and other dignitaries will begin at 10:29 a.m., the time of the collapse of the North Tower on Sept. 11.

Sunday, a third event will be held, one that has been organized for the families of victims, some of whom will not be able to attend tomorrow.

The cutting of the beam was necessary in advance of tomorrow's event because of the time needed to cut it down in addition to safety concerns, site offi-

cials said.

At 8:22 p.m., the beam was laid carefully on the ground before being placed on the flatbed truck.

Firefighter Thomas Fenech of Ladder 1 looked on with a clear understanding of the moment's significance.

"We don't have to look at all the rubble and debris," he said. "The beam reminded us why we're here. You could look at the beam and be reminded of why we are here."

Newsday 5-5

Group Hails Ruling on Truck Pollution Testing

By Dan Janison

STAFF WRITER

City officials failed to properly test the impact of air pollution caused by trucking its trash to New Jersey, a state judges' panel ruled yesterday.

An environmental group hailed the 4-0 state Appellate Division decision as having "far-reaching implications for air quality and public health."

Last year, the city closed its last landfill on Staten Island, as required by state lawmakers, forcing a major increase in the tonnage of trash trucked out of state each day.

In the late 1990s, the Sanitation Department formally declared the increased traffic would have no significant environmental effect.

Based on that declaration, the Giuliani administration decided that a further environmental review of the plan was unnecessary.

But state Attorney General Eliot Spitzer and the Natural Resources Defense Council disagreed.

They joined forces and sued, saying the department was required to better assess potential health danger from tiny particles spewed by the trucks' diesel engines. Their arguments were initially rejected in October 2000 by State Supreme Court Justice Stanley Parness — whose ruling was reversed yesterday.

While there was no immediate word on whether the Bloomberg administration would seek to appeal the unanimous appellate ruling, the state's highest court rarely reviews unanimous findings.

"Today's decision has far-reaching implications," said Katherine Kennedy of the nonprofit Natural Resources Defense Council.

Aside from sending the department "back to the drawing board to analyze the impact on fine particle pollution," the appellate court's ruling could have implications for new power plants and other projects earlier than once expected, Kennedy said.

"This is important because scientists are now finding that fine particulate pollution is linked to lung cancer, cardiac problems . . . and a host of other medical problems," she said.

The Sanitation Department tests that did take place made use of pre-1997 standards and focused on pollution around the Holland Tunnel.

NEWSDAY, WEDNESDAY, MAY 29, 2002

The Daily News
 Tuesday, June 4, 2002

Feds to foot \$11.7M bill for school WTC cleanup

By ALISON GENDAR and GREG CYTRICH
 DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITERS

The Board of Education won't be stuck with a nearly \$12 million bill to clean potentially hazardous World Trade Center dust from downtown schools, officials said yesterday.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency told school officials yesterday that it would reimburse \$11.7 million spent in cleanup and environmental testing since Sept. 11. The agency said it would eventually also cover \$5 million spent to clean schools in buildings leased by the Board of Ed.

Brad Gair, federal recovery officer for the World Trade Center disaster, told city and school officials the news in an hour-long conference call yesterday.

Gair told the Daily News in April that most of the cleanup costs would be covered, but the agency has been blasted for appearing to drag its feet and being insensitive to city schoolchildren.

The board is still pushing for \$103 million to make up for lost instruction time since Sept. 11, an expense FEMA has said it is not authorized to cover, and \$40 million for mental health services for still-traumatized students.

"We made real progress today in getting this decision from FEMA, but the remaining costs to the system still need to be met for the sake of New York's school kids," said Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-Manhattan), a FEMA critic.

The feds also announced that they are living near Ground Zero who are fearful of

potentially asbestos-laden dust in their homes can call a toll-free number to order a free cleanup.

The Environmental Protection Agency agreed last month to create the unprecedented home-cleaning program after it was besieged by complaints from people living near Ground Zero who were scared to breathe the air in their homes.

The feds will pay to clean the apartments of tenants and homeowners south of Canal St., where most of the potentially dangerous dust from the twin towers collapse settled.

The cleaning can be requested by calling (877) 796-5471 or going to www.epa.gov/wtc.

The hotline will be staffed to take cleaning and testing requests 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends.

Money for vacuums

People who want to handle the cleaning themselves can get as much as \$300 from FEMA to buy a high-powered vacuum with special HEPA filters.

Professional cleaning costs about \$1.50 per square foot, and the tab can quadruple if asbestos is detected.

Those who register for the fed-managed cleanup can track their requests and learn the results of testing and cleanup on the Web or through the hotline.

The cleaning is expected to begin in July.

Critics of the program insist cleanup should be mandatory and entire buildings — not individual apartments — should be scrubbed.

The Daily News
 Tuesday, June 4, 2002

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Gair told the Daily News in April that most of the cleanup costs would be covered, but the agency has been blasted for appearing to drag its feet and being insensitive to city schoolchildren.

The board is still pushing for \$103 million to make up for lost instruction time since Sept. 11, an expense FEMA has said it is not authorized to cover, and \$40 million for mental health services for still-traumatized students.

"We made real progress today in getting this decision from FEMA, but the remaining costs to the system still need to be met for the sake of New York's school kids," said Rep. Carolyn Maloney (D-Manhattan), a FEMA critic.

The feds also announced that those living near Ground Zero who are fearful of

potentially asbestos-laden dust in their homes can call a toll-free number to order a free cleanup.

The Environmental Protection Agency agreed last month to create the unprecedented home-cleaning program after it was besieged by complaints from people living near Ground Zero who were scared to breathe the air in their homes.

The feds will pay to clean the apartments of tenants and homeowners south of Canal St., where most of the potentially dangerous dust from the twin towers collapse settled.

The cleaning can be requested by calling (877) 796-5471 or going to www.epa.gov/wtc.

The hotline will be staffed to take cleaning and testing requests 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on weekends.

Money for vacuums

People who want to handle the cleaning themselves can get as much as \$300 from FEMA to buy a high-powered vacuum with special HEPA filters.

Professional cleaning costs about \$1.50 per square foot, and the tab can quadruple if asbestos is detected.

Those who register for the fed-managed cleanup can track their requests and learn the results of testing and cleanup on the Web or through the hotline.

The cleaning is expected to begin in July.

Critics of the program insist cleanup should be mandatory and entire buildings — not individual apartments — should be scrubbed.

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